Misinformations regarding withdrawal of troops from Kashmir

†4505. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of Government of India's decision that troops would not be withdrawn from Kashmir, it is being propagated that India and Pakistan have agreed to withdraw troops from Kashmir; and

(b) whether Government would take immediate steps to check this misinformation and take stringent action against the persons guilty for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Government's view on "withdrawal of troops from Jammu and Kashmir" are categorical that Central Para Military Forces are deployed in various States, from time to time, in aid to the civil authorities on the request of the State Governments, in the context of specific security related requirements and needs. There are no specific and fixed criteria for such deployment or withdrawal.

There have been demands and reports from various sources, from time to time, about reduction of the level of security force deployment in view of the overall improvement in the security environment. The approach of the Government is to ensure that the deployment of security forces is related to the scale of problems and requirements on the ground. In this context, it has been decided to constitute a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Defence Secretary to examine the overall situation and security forces deployment in the light of the approach of the Government as stated above and to determine whether there is need to relocate and reconfigure the existing security forces deployment.

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has already made the position clear on the issue of withdrawal of troops from Jammu and Kashmir in the Closing Remarks at the third Round Table Conference on Jammu and Kashmir held in Delhi on April 24, 2007 that some public statements emanating from Pakistan do not give the correct picture.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.